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REPORT

OF THE

Bristol & West of England Society

FOR

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE,

1875.

*OBJECT.—To obtain for Women Householders
and Ratepayers the right of Voting for
Members of Parliament.*

BRISTOL :

H. HILL, STEAM PRINTER, 2 BALDWIN STREET.

1876.

BRISTOL & WEST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY

FOR

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

THE last Annual Meeting of this Society was held on the 4th of March in the lesser Colston Hall—the chair being taken by the Mayor of Bristol, C. J. Thomas, Esq. The Lady Anna Gore-Langton, having a short time before consented to become President of this Society, was present at the meeting and proved by her advocacy on that occasion how important she considers the question of the enfranchisement of Women.

Since that meeting the Women's Disabilities Bill has been discussed for the first time in the present Parliament. It was read a first time on February 8th in last year, and the second reading was fixed for April 7th. Notice of opposition to the Bill was given by Mr Leatham, and later in the session by Mr Chaplin.

Mr Forsyth moved the second reading in a speech of much ability and moderation. The Bill was also supported by the Right Hon. J. Stansfeld, Mr Jackson, and Mr O'Sullivan. The rejection of the Bill was moved by Mr Chaplin and seconded by Mr Leatham, and further opposed by Mr Smollett, Mr Beresford Hope, Mr Newdegate, and Sir Henry James. On a division the numbers were—

For the Bill	...	152
Against	...	187
Majority against	...	35

President.

THE LADY ANNA GORE LANGTON

Vice-Presidents.

MISS ASHWORTH, Claverton Lodge, Bath
 LADY BOWRING, Claremont, Exeter
 Rev JOHN W. CALDICOTT, M.A. Grammar School, Bristol
 Mrs CRAWSHAY, Cyfarthfa Castle, Merthyr Tydfil
 LORD EDMOND FITZ-MAURICE, M.P. Calne
 LADY GOLDSMID, Rendcombe Park, Cirencester
 Mr SHOLTO VERE HARE, Knole Park, Almondsbury
 Dr LUSH, M.P. Fisherton House, Salisbury
 THE COUNTESS OF MAR, Hilston Park, Monmouth
 Professor F. W. NEWMAN, Weston super-Mare
 Rev Prebendary PERCIVAL, M.A. Clifton College
 Mr WILLIAM SOMMERVILLE, J.P. Bitton
 Mr HERBERT THOMAS, J.P. Great George Street, Bristol
 W. KILLIGREW WAIT, M.P. Worcester Villas, Clifton
 Mr MARK WHITWILL, J.P. Durdham Park, Bristol

Corresponding Members.

<i>Bridgwater</i>	- Miss Thompson	<i>Pembroke Dock</i>	Mrs Fincham
<i>Bridport</i>	- Mrs R. L. Carpenter	<i>Plymouth</i>	- Mrs R. Bishop
<i>Cheltenham</i>	- Mrs J. Robberds	<i>Pont-y-Pool</i>	- Miss David
<i>Cirencester</i>	- Rev Henry Austin	<i>Portishead</i>	- Mrs de l'Hoste
<i>Exeter</i>	- Mr Frederick Townsend	<i>Sidcot</i>	- Mrs Arthur Tanner
<i>Gloucester</i>	- Miss Rawlings	<i>Street</i>	- Mrs Helen Bright Clark
<i>Haverfordwest</i>	- Mr Howell Davies	<i>St. Austell</i>	- Mrs Ball
<i>Ilanelly</i>	- Mr W. Howell	<i>Swansea</i>	- Mrs E. Higginson
<i>Leominster</i>	- Miss Southall,	<i>Tavistock</i>	- Miss Rachel Evans
<i>Malmesbury</i>	- Mr S. Clark	<i>TeWKesbury</i>	- Rev Thomas Wilkinson
<i>Monmouth</i>	- Mr Thomas James, J.P.	<i>Worcester</i>	- Mr W. Weaver
<i>Pembroke</i>	- Mrs Bowling		

Committee.

Mr Joseph Bartlett	Rev E. Harris, M.A.	Miss Solly
Mrs Beddoe	Mr Lloyd	Mrs Charles Thomas
Mrs Colman	Miss Lloyd	Miss Lillie Thomas
T. W. Dunn, M.A.	Miss Mary Price	Mr Thornton
Mrs Grenfell	Miss Priestman	Miss Eva Tribe
J. G. Grenfell, B.A.	Miss M. Priestman	Eliza Walker-Dunbar, M.D.

Hon. Secretaries.

Miss Lillias S. Ashworth | Rev Urijah R. Thomas

Treasurer.

Alan Greenwell, M.A., 1 Westbourne Villas, Clifton

Office—53 PARK STREET, BRISTOL.

In the last division which took place in the old Parliament in 1873 the numbers were—

For the Bill	...	155
Against		222
Majority against	...	67

It will thus be seen that the hostile majority has been reduced from Sixty-seven in the old Parliament to Thirty-five in the last division. The number of adverse votes was not diminished through any want of energy on the part of our opponents: a three lined whip signed by both Liberal and Conservative opponents was sent previous to the division to every Member of Parliament, requesting them to be present and vote for the rejection of the Bill. A special whip was also sent out by Mr Newdegate. The result of these strenuous exertions was that 187 Members recorded their votes against the Bill.

During the session of 1875 there were 1273 petitions presented to the House of Commons signed by 415,622 persons in favour of the Women's Disabilities Bill—of these 33 were sent from Bristol and Clifton, signed by 10,474 persons. Through the agency and friends of the Bristol centre 88 petitions were forwarded from the West of England district, signed by 14,038 persons.

Your Committee would strongly urge their friends to continue the work of petitioning Parliament during the present session. It is the only direct means open to women of laying their grievances before Parliament; and your Committee would earnestly ask all who are interested in this question, to aid their efforts by signing petitions and getting others to sign in support of the Bill.

Petition sheets are always to be had on application at the office of the Society, 53 Park Street.

Your Committee report that meetings have been held under their auspices at Swindon, Evesham and Brecon, at all of which resolutions were unanimously adopted in support of the movement.

Through the kindness of Mrs Beddow and Mrs Tribe two drawing room meetings were held last month at Clifton and Redland, for the discussion of Women's Suffrage. The rooms were crowded, and much interest was manifested. Your Committee desire to express their appreciation of the usefulness of the help thus given, and trust that the example of these ladies will be followed not only in Bristol but in other West of England towns.

During the visit of the British Association to Bristol in August, a paper was contributed by Miss Priestman on "The Industrial Position of Women as affected by their exclusion from the Suffrage." Your Committee record with much satisfaction the acceptance by the British Association of a paper on this question. It was printed nearly in full in the October number of the Women's Suffrage Journal.

Your Committee have to mourn the loss they have sustained by the death of the Rev David Thomas, B.A. and Lord Amberley, both of whom were Vice-Presidents of this Society. In widely differing spheres, but each with conspicuous ability and extensive influence, they both contributed largely to the advanced position that our question now occupies in the West of England. The Rev William James of this city, who was from the beginning one of the most steadfast, earnest and eloquent of our supporters, and

who has seldom been absent from our annual meetings, also died during this year. And in lamenting the death of their Secretary, Miss Luke, the Committee would take the opportunity of testifying to the faithfulness, zeal and ability, with which she served your interests as long as her health permitted her.

Your Committee continue to send copies of the Women's Suffrage Journal to Members of Parliament within their district, and also to the Editors of all Newspapers throughout the West of England and South Wales.

The date of the second reading of the Women's Disabilities Bill is fixed for April 26th. It is of the utmost importance that every Member of Parliament should hear directly from his constituents of their interest in the Bill.

The Committee therefore earnestly beg that their subscribers throughout this district will, by means of Memorials and Petitions and by private appeals to Members of Parliament, urge them to be present, and to record their votes in favor of the Bill when it is brought forward for second reading on April 26th.

Dr. *Treasurer in Account with the Bristol & West of England Society for Women's Suffrage for 1875.* **Cr.**

Balance in hand of Treasurer last year	£ 3 17 3	Public Meetings in Bristol and West of England	..	..	£ 114 12 7
Subscriptions and Donations	.. 438 6 8	Petitions	..	..	52 2 3
Sale of Tickets at public meetings	5 14 0	Salaries and Office Expenditure	..	..	165 7 2
Sale of Journals, &c	.. 2 12 8	Printing	..	..	34 3 2
Balance due to Treasurer	.. 4 4 9	Publications	..	..	38 13 5
		Rent of Office	..	..	25 0 0
		Postage and Stationery	..	..	24 16 9
					£ 454 15 4

February 11th, 1876 - Audited and found correct,
WILBERFORCE TRIBE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

FOR THE YEAR 1875.

Mr Thomas Adams ..	£0 5 0	Mr J. Buckley ..	£0 10 0
Mrs Adams ..	0 2 0	Miss Budden ..	0 5 0
Mr Akery ..	0 1 0	Mrs W. H. Budgett ..	0 5 0
Viscount Amberley ..	1 0 0	Mr Bunce ..	0 2 6
Mr and Mrs Andrews ..	0 2 0	C. T. ..	20 0 0
Miss Julia Anthony ..	0 5 0	Rev J. W. Caldicott ..	0 5 0
Mr G. T. Armstrong ..	2 2 0	Miss Calmady ..	0 5 0
Miss Ashworth ..	100 0 0	Mrs Russell Carpenter ..	1 0 0
Miss L. S. Ashworth ..	50 0 0	Ditto (donation) ..	1 0 0
Mrs Atkinson ..	0 5 0	Miss Carpenter ..	0 10 0
Mrs Austin ..	0 5 0	Mrs W. L. Carpenter ..	0 5 0
Mr J. A. Baines ..	1 0 0	Mrs Carslake ..	1 0 0
Mrs J. A. Baines ..	1 0 0	Mrs J. H. B. Carslake ..	0 5 0
Mr W. Mills Baker ..	1 1 0	Mrs Chappell ..	0 10 0
Ditto (donation) ..	5 0 0	Mr Joseph Chapman ..	0 2 6
Mr J. Gilmore Barnett ..	0 10 0	Mr Chirgwin ..	0 2 6
Mr Bartlett ..	0 10 6	Mrs W. B. Clark ..	1 1 0
Mrs Bartlett ..	0 10 6	Mr S. Clarke ..	0 2 6
Mr John Batchelor ..	0 5 0	Mrs Coates ..	1 1 0
Bath Committee for		Mrs W. Colfox (donation)	0 10 0
Somerset work ..	10 0 0	Mrs Colman ..	0 5 0
Mr and Mrs Bayliffe ..	0 2 0	Mr W. F. Collier ..	0 10 6
Mr J. Beer ..	1 0 0	Mrs W. F. Collier ..	0 10 6
Mrs Beddoe ..	0 10 0	Mr R. Corey, Jun. ..	1 0 0
Mr George Bessell ..	0 2 6	Mr John Corey ..	1 0 0
Mr Thomas Beynon ..	1 1 0	Mr Handel Cossham ..	2 2 0
Mr John Bill ..	0 10 0	Mr Cotterell ..	0 2 6
Mrs Bishop ..	0 2 0	Miss Courtauld ..	1 1 0
Mrs Black ..	0 10 6	Mrs Curnock ..	0 1 0
Mrs Bond ..	0 2 6	Mr Dakyns ..	0 1 0
Mrs Boucher ..	0 2 6	Miss Dance ..	0 2 0
Miss Bowling ..	0 5 0	Mr J. L. Daniell ..	0 5 6
Lady Bowring ..	0 10 0	Mrs Davies ..	0 2 0
Mr Edward Branth ..	0 5 0	Mr H. Davies ..	0 5 6
Mr Thomas Brewin ..	0 5 0	Rev T. Davies ..	0 1 0
Mr William Brewin ..	0 5 0	Mr Downing ..	0 5 0
Miss M. J. Briggs ..	1 1 0	Dr Walker-Dunbar ..	0 10 0
Mrs Jacob Bright (don.)	50 0 0	Mr T. W. Dunn ..	1 1 0
Miss E. Brock ..	0 5 0	Mr F. Dyer ..	0 1 0
Rev J. J. Brown ..	0 2 6	Mrs F. Dyer ..	0 1 0
Mrs S. W. Browne ..	1 0 0	Miss Ellaby ..	0 10 0
Rev T. E. Brown, M.A.	0 10 0	Miss Estlin ..	5 0 0
Miss Bryant ..	0 2 6	Etonensis ..	1 1 0

Mrs Evans ..	£0	10	0	Mr C. H. James ..	£1	0	0
Miss Rachel Evans ..	0	6	6	Mr F. James ..	0	10	6
F. B. per M. C. ..	1	0	0	Mrs James ..	0	10	0
Mrs Fardon ..	0	2	6	Rev W. James ..	0	5	0
Dr Farrar ..	0	5	0	Mr Jennings ..	0	5	0
Mrs Field ..	0	5	0	Mrs Elias Jones ..	0	10	6
Miss Fitzherbert ..	0	5	0	Miss Jones ..	0	5	0
Mr Ford ..	0	5	0	Lady Anna Gore-Langton	20	0	0
Mr W. H. Frank ..	0	2	6	Ditto (donation) ..	20	0	0
Mrs Frazer ..	0	5	0	Mrs Langdon ..	0	1	0
A Friend ..	20	0	0	Mr H. F. Lawes ..	0	10	0
A Friend ..	3	0	0	Mrs Layton ..	1	0	0
A Friend ..	0	10	0	Miss Leedham ..	0	5	0
Mr T. Gath ..	0	5	0	Miss Leonard ..	1	0	0
Mr Gawler ..	0	1	6	Miss F. Leonard ..	0	5	0
Mrs Geary ..	0	2	6	Miss E. Leonard ..	0	5	0
Miss Le Geyt ..	0	2	0	Mr G. H. Leonard ..	1	1	0
Miss Gibson ..	0	5	0	Mr W. A. Leonard ..	0	5	0
Miss M. Gibson ..	0	5	0	Mr Lloyd ..	0	5	0
Mr Glover ..	0	2	0	Miss Lloyd ..	0	5	0
Mr Greenwell ..	0	5	0	Mr John Lucas ..	1	1	0
Mrs E. F. Grenfell ..	0	2	6	Miss Luke ..	0	5	0
Mr J. G. Grenfell ..	1	1	0	Miss Lutley ..	0	2	6
Mrs J. G. Grenfell ..	1	0	0	Dr Edward Lynes ..	0	5	0
Mrs Griffith ..	1	0	0	M. ..	0	13	8
Mrs Goss ..	0	5	0	Dr Macgowan ..	0	10	6
Miss Hall ..	0	10	0	Miss Malin ..	0	10	0
H. S (Mrs Holroyd) ..	5	0	0	Madam H. de Manin ..	0	5	0
Mr Hamilton ..	0	5	0	The Misses Marriott ..	0	10	0
Mrs Hamilton ..	0	5	0	Dr Martyn ..	0	5	0
Mr Hancock ..	0	10	0	The Mayor of Penzance	0	2	6
Mr Sholto Vere Hare ..	1	1	0	Miss J. E. Metford ..	1	0	0
Rev W. Hargreaves ..	0	5	0	Mrs Miller ..	0	7	6
Rev E. Harris ..	1	1	0	Mr Mitchell ..	0	2	0
Mrs Harris ..	0	2	0	Mrs Neild ..	0	5	0
Rev B. Hartnell ..	0	5	0	Professor Newman ..	5	0	0
Rev — Hedgeland (don.)	0	2	0	Mrs Norris ..	1	0	0
Mr A. Hellyar ..	0	5	0	Mr J. F. Norris ..	0	5	0
Mr Herbert ..	0	1	0	Mrs J. F. Norris ..	0	5	0
Mrs Higginson ..	0	10	0	Rev A Norris ..	0	1	0
Miss Higginson ..	0	5	0	Mrs Olive ..	0	10	0
Miss F. M. Hill ..	1	1	0	Mr Pakeman ..	0	1	0
Mr Hill ..	0	10	0	Miss Parnall ..	0	5	0
Miss Hincks ..	0	5	0	Mrs Peck ..	0	10	0
Mrs Holroyd ..	1	0	0	Rev Prebendary Percival, D.D.	0	10	0
Mr S. Home ..	0	7	6	Rev — Peters ..	0	2	6
Mrs de l'Hoste ..	0	10	0	Miss L. F. March-Phillips	0	5	0
Miss Howell ..	0	2	0	Mrs Phillips ..	0	10	0
Mrs Hunt ..	0	2	6	Mrs Pierce ..	0	2	6
Mr Hutchinson ..	0	5	0	Miss Pigou ..	0	2	6
Mr Jacques ..	0	5	0	Mr A. Pole ..	0	5	0
Mrs Jacques ..	0	5	0	Mrs Price ..	1	0	0

Miss Mary Price ..	£1	1	0
Miss M. N. Price ..	1	0	0
Miss Price ..	0	10	0
Mr Alfred Price ..	0	10	0
Mrs N. Price ..	0	6	6
Mr Peter Price ..	0	5	0
The Misses Priestman ..	1	1	0
Miss Schaw Protheroe ..	1	0	0
Mrs Reader ..	0	2	6
Mrs Reid ..	0	5	0
Mrs Rendall ..	0	5	0
Mrs Reynolds ..	0	5	0
Mrs Robberds ..	1	0	0
Mr R. D. Robjent ..	0	10	0
Mr Rogers ..	0	5	0
Rev T. G. Rooke ..	0	2	6
Mrs Roscoe ..	0	5	0
Mr Rosser ..	0	5	0
Mr C. Sankey ..	0	5	0
Mrs M. M. Seaton ..	0	2	6
Mrs Shipley ..	0	10	0
Mrs Sibley ..	0	10	0
Ditto (donation) ..	0	10	0
Mrs Smith ..	1	0	0
Mrs Julius Smith ..	0	5	0
Mr Henry Smith ..	0	5	0
Mrs Spencer ..	0	5	0
Miss G. Stephens ..	0	5	0
Mrs Stone ..	0	3	0
Mr F. Storr ..	0	5	0
Mrs W. Sturge ..	0	2	6
Mr Solomon ..	0	5	0
Mr Sommerville ..	4	0	0
The Misses Southall ..	0	10	0
Rev T. Burchell Spring ..	0	10	0
Mrs P. Suhle ..	0	7	0
T. W. ..	0	12	0
Mr C. W. Tait ..	0	10	0
Mrs A. Tanner ..	1	1	0
Miss Taylor ..	0	5	0

Mrs Charles Thomas ..	£5	0	0
Mr Herbert Thomas ..	2	2	0
Mr C. J. Thomas (don.)	1	1	0
Miss Thomas ..	1	0	0
Mrs W. H. Thomas ..	1	0	0
Mrs Thomas Thomas ..	1	1	0
Rev U. R. Thomas ..	1	1	0
Rev J. S. Thomas ..	0	5	0
Miss G. Thomas ..	0	5	0
Mr G. Thomas ..	0	2	6
Mrs F. J. Thompson ..	0	10	0
Mrs Alexander Thompson	0	5	0
Mrs Thompson ..	0	2	0
Miss Evelyn Thompson	0	3	0
Miss Ella Thompson ..	0	3	0
Miss Thompson ..	0	2	6
Mrs W. Thompson ..	0	2	6
Mr Thornton ..	0	5	0
Mrs Thorp ..	0	2	0
Miss Tribe ..	1	1	0
Mr W. Tribe ..	0	10	6
Mr Tucker ..	0	5	0
Miss J. Venning ..	0	5	0
Miss Wansey ..	0	5	0
Mrs Warren ..	0	11	6
Mr Waterman ..	0	5	0
Mr W. Weaver (donation)	0	5	0
Mr Wedmore ..	0	10	0
Mr Weir ..	0	5	0
Mrs Whereat ..	0	5	0
Mr Mark Whitwill ..	1	0	0
Rev T. Wilkinson ..	0	5	0
Miss Williams ..	5	5	0
Mr Williams (donation)	0	2	0
Mr Willis ..	0	5	0
A Friend ..	0	5	0
Mrs T. Wood ..	0	5	0

£438 6 8

RULES.

- I. Annual Subscribers of any amount will be enrolled as Members, and entitled to receive papers or tracts of the Society on application.
- II. The Executive Committee shall consist of Members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, with power to add to their number.
- III. That five Members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum.
- IV. The Executive Committee shall at its first meeting elect the Officers.